(b) and (c) Due to the recessionary trends in the international market various second-hand capital goods of recent technology are available at a very competitive price. There is no apprehension of over-invoicing of such imports because for the purpose of valuation of import of second-hand capital goods worth Rs. one crore and above, a certificate from an internationally reputed Inspection and Certification Agency shall be required. Further, import of second-hand capital goods in all cases is permitted with Actual User condition only.

Completion of Coal Projects in time

*392. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of coal projects are running behind their schedule;

(b) if so, what is their number and the reasons for not completing them on schedule;

(c) the efforts made by Government to complete them in time; and

(d) the extent of success achieved by Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) As on 31-3-31-3-1994, out of 83 on-going coal projects each costing Rs. 20 crores and above, 26 are behind schedule of implementation. Main reasons of delay are constraints in land acquisition and related rehabilitation problems, delay in equipment supply and turn-key execution and adverse geo-mining condition.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Coal is closely monitoring the implementation of these delayed projects. The Ministry and coal companies follow up with the concerned State Governments in expediting pending land cases and also with equipment manufacturers in ensuring early supply/commissioning of equipment. The Ministry of Coal have identified critical action areas for these projects and have asked coal companies to take remedial measures. As a result of these follow-up measures, many of the constraints impeding the progress of the delayed projects could be removed.

Export of Agricultural Implements

*393. SHRI MATANG SINH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the agricultural implements including tractors which have been exported to each country during the last three years;

(b) the names of the exporters and the details of foreign exchange earned as a result thereof during this period; and

(c) the efforts that have been made to boost exports of agricultural implements during this period and what are the future plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The main items of agricultural implements, including tractors, exported during the last three years are spades and shovels, mattocks, picks, hoes, rakes, axes, billhooks, hewing tools and other hand tools and appliances, spray guns, ploughs, harrows, manure and fertiliser spreaders, threshing and harvesting machinery and tractors. The main markets for the above exports during the last three years have been USA, Sri Lanka, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Nepal, UK, UAE, France, Netherlands and Italy.

(b) The major exporters of agricultural implements and tractors are: HMT Limited, Bangalore Eicher Goodearth Limited, New Delhi, Punjab Tractors Limited, District Ropar, Tractor and Farm Equipment Limited, Madras, Mahindra and Mahindra Limited, Bombay, Escorts Tractors Limited, New Delhi, Kirloskar Tractors Limited, Nasik, Kirloskar Brothers, Poona, Harsha Tractor Limited, New Delhi, Bihar State Agro. Ind. Dev. Corn. Ltd., Patna, VST Tillers Tractors Limited. Bangalore, Tata Iron and Steel Co. Ltd., Bombay, Shriahankar Industries, Bombay, Calcutta Iron Engg. Co. Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta, Kumar Bros. Sheet and Metal Works, Delhi, Cossul and Company, Kanpur, Nipha Exports Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta, Rajan Universal Tractors, Madras and Rex Trading, Madras. The value of total exports

of the above items during the last three years are as follows :—

Year	Value in Rs. lakhs
1991-92 . .	3000
1992-93 . . .	4500
1993-94 . . .	3333
(Apr.-Dec. 1993)	

SOURCE : Engineering Export Promotion Council.

(c) Promotion of Exports, including those of agricultural implements and tractors, has been the constant endeavour of the Government. Various measures which have assisted exports of engineering goods, including agricultural implements and tractors during the last three years, include making available inputs for export production at international prices, allowing of import of capital goods for export production at concessional import duty in lieu of export obligation, exemption of income derived from export from levy of income tax, progressive movement towards full convertibility of export earnings at market rates of exchange, assistance from Market Development Fund to promote exports and making available deferred credit and lines of credit to facilitate exports. It is proposed to continue to promote export of agricultural implements and tractors in future also.

Subsidence in the Raniganj coalfields

*394. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE :

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a serious problem of subsidence in the Raniganj Coalfields in Burdwan district and the Central Government and the State Government of West Bengal refuse to come to the terms on the question of funding and modalities of the statutory authority to deal with the controversial issue;

(b) whether it is also a fact that more than one lakh people are living in that area under the constant shade of danger; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to save the lives of lakhs of people of Burdwan district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) to (c) Some areas in the Raniganj coalfield in West Bengal are prone to subsidence mainly due to unscientific mining carried out before the nationalisation of the coal mines. The problem of subsidence has been further compounded by illegal mining which has to be controlled by the law enforcing authorities of the State Government. An Apex Monitoring Committee comprising of representatives of coal company, District Administration, Director General of Mines Safety, Central Mining Research Station and public figures (MPs, MLAs) was constituted to examine 49 unstable localities of Raniganj. This Committee opined that 38 localities covering an area of 11.8 sq. kms. are unsafe, of which about 4.8 sq. kms. area is covered by buildings constructed despite the enactment of the West Bengal Restriction on Construction in Unsafe Areas Act, 1979 of the State Government.

Since maps of the old workings are not available, ECL on their own have taken up a stabilisation project which primarily aims at developing a suitable technique. An area measuring 8.72 hectares was taken up for conducting trials for hydro-pneumatic sand stowing technique developed indigenously. The estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 3.76 crores. The amount spent on the scheme is Rs. 1.53 crores approximately which is being reimbursed from Excise Duty collected under the Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Act, 1974.

For actual implementation of subsidence control schemes at site, active association of the State Government/District authorities is essential in dealing inter-alia with the problem of shifting and re-location of ties is essential in dealing inter-alia with It is in this background and for creation of an institutional arrangement for dealing with the problem in totality that it was suggested to the Government of West Bengal that the existing Asansol Durgapur Development Authority (ADDA) which was set up under the Town and Country (Planning and Development) Act, 1979 of